



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
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THELYPODIUM SAGITTATUM SSP SAGITTATUM
SLENDER THELYPODY

Slender Thelypody is a biennial or short-lived perennial with solitary, simple or branched stems that are 30-80 cm high and arising from a taproot. The lower leaves are 6-20 cm long and have stalks and broadly lance-shaped, entire-margined blades. The upper leaves are smaller, narrowly arrow-shaped, and they lack petioles. Foliage is glabrous or nearly so and has a thin, waxy coating. Flowers are densely clustered on ascending stalks in cylindric inflorescences that expand greatly when in fruit. Each flower has 4 separate sepals that are 3-7 mm long, 4 separate, lavender petals that are 7-14 mm long and 1-3 mm wide, and 4 long and 2 short stamens. The ascending, straight, cylindric capsules are 18-53 mm long and less than 1 mm wide. Flowering and fruiting from the end of May-mid-July.

This species is similar to *THELYPODIUM PANICULATUM*, but the latter has capsules that are greater than 1.3 mm wide and petals that are greater than 2.5 mm wide. *T. SAGITTATUM* might also be confused with species of *ARABIS*, but they have flattened rather than cylindrical siliques.